



Friday  
July 30, 2010

# Weekly Views

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Fatherhood Program donated \$1,500 to Riley Children's Hospital for the second straight year. Program coordinators Michele Lincoln and Josh Collins presented the check and received a certificate of appreciation from the hospital. Riley helped over 7,000 area children this past year alone.

The Boy Scouts at Pendleton Juvenile held a boat regatta. After the students painted their sailboats, they raced the boats in a rain gutter. The boats were powered by the students blowing on the sail.



The month of July was filled with blood drives hosted by facilities across the state for the Department's 2010 IDOC Blood Drive Challenge. To date, over 660 units have been donated by staff at the 20 facilities that participated!

Miami Correctional Facility Employee Appreciation Committee held a chili dog sale recently raising more than \$400 towards future Employee appreciation activities.

The band "Stop on Green" associated with the Campus Crusade for Christ Ministry visited Pendleton Correctional Facility and the Correctional Industrial Facility. The band performed for approximately 100 offenders in the Pendleton Correctional Facility Chapel. The band is composed of ten college students from all over America and plays popular rock music.

Students from the Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility are completing art murals in the housing units.

Inside Outside Dads program participants recorded 15 children's books and tapes to send to their children through the Correctional Industrial Facility Library and Indiana State Library READ-TO-ME Program, which is designed to strengthen offender family ties prior to release.

Westville Correctional Facility's Therapeutic Community (TC) in cooperation with the Recreation Department hosted a softball tournament. Players from the Warsaw Community League were invited to the facility to take on the TC All-Star Team. The crowd cheered as the TC team sneaked by the visiting team for a win. The Warsaw team enjoyed the game and requested to come back for a rematch.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 15 offenders who successfully completed the PLUS program. Guest speaker Gary Varvel, an award winning, syndicated, editorial cartoonist for the Indianapolis Star, shared several of his illustrations and discussed how his faith impacted his life and his work.

Commissioner Buss and Chief of Staff Ronay attended Pendleton Juvenile's Quarterly Staff Assembly. As the keynote speaker, the Commissioner spoke to staff about the positive progress of the facility. A graduation ceremony was held after the assembly. Five students received their GED and one student received his high school diploma.



Pendleton Juvenile students were out in the heat again performing community service for Habitat for Humanity. The students are helping build a house in the Anderson Community.

Vickie Schmidt, Culinary Arts Instructor at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility, spent a week at the Golden Corral Center for Training and Development as one of three national recipients of the 2010 ProStart Teacher Training and Development award.

During the training she met with Ted Fowler, President & C.E.O. and many other executives to learn the complexities of operating a major restaurant business.

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board meeting. Staff and members of the community discussed updates to the ALERT Notification System, Volunteer Appreciation Day and upcoming community service projects.